

1 JOHN

BELOVED



ABIDING & ABOUNDING
IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

1 John 5

4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Three Tests of Genuine Faith

The Moral Test (Obedience)

And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him...

- 1 John 2:3-4

The Moral Test (Obedience)

Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous...By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

- 1 John 3:7,10

The Relational Test (love)

Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.

- 1 John 2:9,10

The Relational Test (love)

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.

- 1 John 3:14

The Doctrinal Test (truth)

No one who denies the Son has the Father.

Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

- 1 John 2:23

The Doctrinal Test (truth)

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.

- 1 John 4:1-3

Three Tests of Genuine Faith

Moral test - 1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Moral test - 1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and **obey his commandments.** **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Relational test - 1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. **2 By this we know that we love the children of God,** when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Doctrinal test - 1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the **Christ** has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.

5 Who is it that overcomes the world except **the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

Three new and deeper insights:

1. **the prior reality**
2. a present reality
3. another present reality

Matthew 25:25

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.”

James 2:19

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

1 John 5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ **has been** born of God

1 John 2:29

If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

1 John 4:7

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Romans 5:1,5

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Three new and deeper insights:

1. the prior reality
- 2. a present reality**
3. another present reality

1 John 5

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. **And his commandments are not burdensome.**

Matthew 23:4

They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

Path of grace: through being
born again, with Jesus!

Command → **obedience**



Path of grit: self-made
righteousness

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Three new and deeper insights:

1. the prior reality
2. a present reality
- 3. another present reality**

1 John 5

4 For everyone who has been born of God **overcomes the world**. And this is the victory that has **overcome the world** - our faith. **5** Who is it that **overcomes the world** except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 2

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.